

Executive Registry
60-2676

April 13, 1960

MEMORANDUM OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN DCI
AND CONGRESSMAN BRUCE ALGER (TEXAS).

The Director called Congressman Bruce Alger (Texas) in response to the Congressman's inquiry as to whether Mr. Dulles ever made television appearances. The Congressman has a weekly TV program in Texas, and he wanted very much to have the Director as his guest. The Director explained he had "quit that," that he had appeared on TV a couple of times, once with his friend, Kenneth Keating, with the excuse that that was the part of the world he came from, and then he got in trouble on that and had to appear on another program (name not mentioned) from the same part of the country. Mr. Dulles said that Television has been after him all along, and that he has the problem of the foreign services with which he works, and who might not understand his appearing on TV, and that since his relationship with these foreign services is very important, he does not wish to make further TV appearances.

The Congressman said that any reason the Director gave was perfectly acceptable to him, that he did not wish to urge him to break his precedent, though these programs are going to be a series of academic forums on various branches of the government, and since our government is a government "for the people" he regretted that the Director felt he could not appear, but stated again he understood perfectly his reasoning, and would not press him to change his mind.

The Director stated he was much interested in this work, and mentioned that he was speaking to a group of foreign students on Sunday. He further said that maybe a time will come when he will feel he can and should appear on TV, and if so, he will certainly be in touch with Mr. Alger. The Congressman thanked him very much for his call, and the conversation ended.

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cc: IG, Colonel Grogan, Legis. Counsel,
ER

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